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QUADRENNIAL REPORTS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, CATEGORIES I AND II

Quadrennial reports, 1990-1993

Reports submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 3 May 1968

Addendum

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* E/C.2/1995/1.

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Note

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) on arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations, organizations in consultative status in categories I and II shall submit to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, through the Secretary-General, every fourth year a brief report of their activities, specifically as regards the support they have given to the work of the United Nations. Based on findings of the Committee's examination of the report and other relevant information, the Committee may recommend to the Council any reclassification in status of the organization concerned as it deems appropriate.

At its 1981 session, the Committee decided that quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations should be limited to no more than two single-spaced pages. At its 1989 session, the Committee stressed the need for non-governmental organizations required to submit quadrennial reports to provide the Secretariat with clear and timely information, including, inter alia, a brief introductory statement recalling the aims and purposes of the organization.

At its 1991 session, the Committee emphasized the need for non-governmental organizations requested to submit quadrennial reports to provide a clear picture of their activities as they related to the United Nations. The Committee further noted that the reports should conform to the guidelines elaborated by the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit pursuant to the relevant decisions of the Committee (see E/1991/20, para. 47). The Committee decided that only those reports elaborated in conformity with the guidelines and submitted to the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit no later than 1 June of the year preceding the Committee's session would be transmitted to the Committee for consideration. The Committee recalled that organizations failing to submit adequate reports on time would be subject to reclassification in status that the Committee might deem appropriate, in conformity with paragraph 40 (b) of Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) (see E/1991/20, para. 48). Pursuant to these decisions, the Secretariat, in December 1993, communicated to all relevant organizations guidelines for the completion of quadrennial reports.

The material issued in the present series of documents (E/C.2/1995/2 and addenda) has been reproduced as submitted and therefore reflects the policies and terminology of the organizations concerned. The designations employed do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the United Nations Secretariat concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Supplementary material, such as annual reports and samples of publications, is available in the Non-Governmental Organizations section of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat.

CONTENTS

		Page
Note		2
1.	International Association for Water Law	4
2.	International Association of Penal Law	7
3.	International Association of Schools of Social Work	9
4.	International Catholic Child Bureau	11
5.	International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment	14
6.	International Federation of Non-Government Organizations for the Prevention of Drug and Substance Abuse	16
7.	International Young Christian Workers	19
8.	Rehabilitation International	22
9.	Richmond Fellowship International	25
10.	World Blind Union	27

1. INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR WATER LAW

(Category II)

The objective of the International Association for Water Law (IAWL), as expressed in its Statute, which was approved on 30 May 1967 on the occasion of a conference on water for peace, is to carry out studies and to promote publications for the exchange and dissemination of opinions and information so as to (a) advance the science of water law and (b) develop national water legislation and the legal aspects of national water administrations and institutions; international aspects are also considered.

The Association's membership comprises "regular" members, that is lawyers with a specialization in water law; "associate" members, that is non-lawyers (engineers, geologists, agronomists, hydrologists and meteorologists, among others), who are directly or indirectly involved with the legal and institutional aspects of water resources management; and "institutional" members, that is organizations or institutions. Admission to membership is granted by the Executive Council of the Association. At present, there are about 400 members from 80 different countries. National branches have been established in Argentina, Colombia, India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Mexico, Spain and Venezuela.

Three issues of Aquaforum, the newsletter of the Association, were published.

Within the framework of the International Conference on Water and the Environment, the Association convened a small group of its members, expert in water law and allied disciplines, to prepare an action-oriented contribution in the specialized field of water law. The topics included (a) redressing the demand-supply imbalance (planning mechanisms, reallocation of water rights, waste-water re-use, pricing mechanisms); (b) water and the environment (managing river basins and watersheds, controlling diffuse sources of water pollution); (c) national water resources administration: new directions; (d) international water resources: new directions/options for the future.

Preparatory work for a conference on water law and administration (Rome, March 1994), organized by the Italian Branch of the Association was carried out under the sponsorship of the Italian National Research Council.

Participation in activities, meetings and conferences within the United Nations system

The Association participated in the following:

(a) Eighty-eighth session of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, November 1990;

(b) International Conference on Water and the Environment, Dublin, 26-31 January 1992;

(c) Twenty-fourth session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Santiago, 8-15 April 1992;

(d) United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 3-14 June 1992;

(e) Eighteenth Regional Conference for Europe of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Prague, 24-28 August 1992;

(f) One hundred second session of the FAO Council, Rome, 9-20 November 1992;

(g) One hundred third session of the FAO Council, Rome, 14-25 June 1993;

(h) Twenty-seventh session of the FAO Conference, Rome, 6-25 November 1993.

Cooperation with the United Nations Secretariat

Contacts were maintained with the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat.

The Association responded to various questionnaires on non-governmental organizations originating from the United Nations and the United Nations Development Programme.

Cooperation with other non-governmental organizations

Cooperation included contacts with and attendance at meetings of the following organizations:

(a) International Law Association, Committee on International Water Resources Law, Brisbane, 19-25 August 1990; The Hague, 28-30 October 1991; Cairo, 20-26 April 1992; and Berlin, 1-3 June 1993;

(b) Conference Israel/Palestine on Water, organized by the Truman Institute for the Progress of Peace of the University of Jerusalem, Zurich, 10-12 December 1992.

Cooperation also included maintaining contacts with the European Council for Environmental Law, Strasbourg; the International Council of Environmental Law; and the European Environmental Law Association.

Other related activities

Courses in water law and administration were given at the River Basin Administration Centre at Delft, the Netherlands.

A training programme on water law and management was conducted at Bangkok for the Mekong Committee, financed by the European Community and the Asian Development Bank, from December 1990 to November 1993.

The Association was represented at the Council of Europe Conference on Sharing Responsibilities between State, Local Authorities and Industry in the Field of Water Resources, held at Strasbourg on 14 and 15 January 1993, and the Council of Europe Conference on Water Resources Management: Which Choices for Local Authorities, held at Budapest from 1 to 3 April 1993.

The Association provided the names of various experts on water law to different institutions, such as the World Bank, the former Department of Technical Cooperation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat, the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme.

Since the realization that water is a precious commodity and that its legal and institutional aspects are important, there is an increasing demand for this type of expertise, which the Association is willing to provide.

2. INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PENAL LAW

(Category II)

The Association is a scholarly not-for-profit, non-political organization dedicated to the study, improvement and humanization of criminal justice in the national, regional and international contexts. Since its inception in 1889 (Vienna) as the Union internationale de droit pénal, it has been a major intellectual force in the advancement of criminal sciences, particularly in the field of international criminal law and human rights. Over the years, it has been a bridge between different legal systems and cultures and an inspiration for criminal law reform in many countries of the world.

The Association is always increasing its geographical membership and has over 3,000 members and affiliates in 97 countries, with 47 active national sections. Its long-standing and continuous contacts with legal institutions and colleagues from developing countries has significantly influenced contemporary changes in criminal law, criminal procedure and penology in those countries.

The Association publishes the Revue internationale de droit pénale in French/English and Spanish, which is now in its sixty-sixth year of publication. The Association also publishes Nouvelles études pénales whose volumes have been issued in English, French and Arabic. Both journals have a world-wide distribution of over 1,500 subscribers, mostly law libraries in over 60 countries. The influence of the Revue is evident in the legal literature and legislative initiatives of at least 50 countries.

During the Association's Fourteenth International Congress in Vienna, a committee of experts advising the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the United Nations Secretariat met to finalize the model draft treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance, which were submitted to the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (Havana, August/September 1990).

The Association was active with the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in New York, Vienna and Geneva; its representative chaired the Vienna Alliance of NGOs.

The Association participated in all relevant United Nations meetings in Vienna and Geneva and actively contributed to the preparation and work of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. In that respect, it joined its sister organizations in two meetings co-sponsored by the United Nations on topic III of the Congress, and prepared a written report for submission to the Congress. The President of the Association was also a member of two interregional committees of experts organized by the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch.

The President of the Association contributed to several documents prepared by the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch for submission to the Eighth Congress.

The Association is active in the preparations for the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be held at Tunis in 1995, and will participate in two ancillary meetings at the Congress.

The Association is to hold its Sixteenth International Penal Law Congress at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in September 1994. The Congress is to be held under the auspices of the President of the Republic. It expects an attendance of 1,200 persons with a large representation from Latin America. Its four topics are as follows:

(a) Problems of criminal responsibility and sanctions in respect of environmental violations;

(b) Computer crime and other crimes related to information technology;

(c) Movements to reform criminal procedure and to protect human rights;

(d) The regionalization of international criminal law and the protection of human rights in international cooperation in criminal proceedings.

These topics have been prepared in preparatory colloquia held in different countries of the world and the proceedings are published in Revue internationale de droit pénale for world-wide distribution.

The Association continues to contribute significantly to the United Nations in the area of the criminal justice programme, as well as in the area of human rights.

3. INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF SOCIAL WORK

(Category II)

Aims and purposes

The International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW), in its mission statement, subscribes to, and is fully committed to upholding, United Nations declarations, conventions and protocols on human rights. The purpose is to further social work and development education and to assist educators to exchange and develop improved and responsive programmes of study. Cooperation with allied non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies, the conducting of congresses and seminars, and the publication of reports and a journal are some of the means to fulfil the aims.

During the quadrennial period there were dramatic changes in both funding sources and membership. In the autumn of 1992, the Government of Austria withdrew its annual grant - 30 per cent of the annual budget - which required IASSW to close its international office at Vienna and dismiss all its staff. The administration of the Association is now in the hands of officers who carry out the work on a voluntary basis from their respective universities. This arrangement was confirmed by the Board of Directors and the General Assembly of members at Amsterdam in July 1994, for the next two years (1996).

Membership, which had been falling until 1990, has risen significantly during the past three years. Countries of Eastern Europe, East Asia, West Asia and North Africa, which had no social work education for political or ideological reasons, began to create new schools and sought the advice and support of IASSW and its member schools. The Russian Federation now has 52 schools; China has 40; and the Baltic countries have 4; Romania and Bulgaria have 6; and the Arab States have 6.

Affiliations to international NGOs in this period include Save the Children Fund (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Misereor (Germany), Caritas Internationalis and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council

IASSW has been active in the planning and execution of the International Year of the Family and was represented at both the Malta opening and the Montreal closing events. It was recognized by the International Year of the Family as a charter and supporting member.

The World Summit for Social Development, to be held in Copenhagen in 1995, has been preceded by combined efforts in preparation of position statements and in joint submissions with the International Council on Social Welfare and the International Federation of Social Workers. This work began in 1993.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

Examples of cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies are as follows:

WHO: collaborative AIDS/HIV educational project, 1990.

UNICEF/NGO Coordinating Committee on Activities for Children in Eastern and Central Europe, 1992-1993.

UNICEF: street children projects, Lima, 1990, for South America; street children project for South Asia and Bombay, 1990-1991; the Disabled Child in Baltic Countries, Vilnius, 1991; Tallin, 1991; Riga, 1991.

Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat:

Seminar on social supports in the midst of disaster: former Yugoslav countries, Vienna, June 1992;

With the Austrian Government, IASSW acted as host at a meeting of Ministers of Social Affairs from 10 Eastern European countries on the topic of professionalization of the bureaucracy and retraining.

World Bank with the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs: social development projects in Pakistan, Thailand and Zimbabwe, 1990-1992.

The Secretary-General of IASSW held discussions with the United Nations Secretariat in New York and Vienna, 1990-1992; with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East on training women welfare officers in States with Arab/Palestinian refugees; with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on Yugoslavia's successor countries, 1991-1993.

4. INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC CHILD BUREAU

(Category II)

Created in 1948, the International Catholic Child Bureau (ICCB) is a network for consultation and action on children's issues. It is at the service of all children, regardless of their religious creed. ICCB has 230 members in 45 countries, who are in daily contact with children. ICCB programmes in the period 1990-1994 included the rights of the child; the child and his/her family environment; disabled children; children in prostitution; the psycho-social needs of refugee children; street children and drug abuse; and health education (Child-to-Child).

ICCB created a regional desk in Manila during the period under review, which carries out ICCB programmes. Funding sources have been diversified and substantially more funding has been obtained from international agencies for specific ICCB programmes. ICCB provides a referral service for small child-related projects in the field and is thus able to raise a substantial amount of extra funds for these projects.

Commission on Human Rights

The ICCB Permanent Representative in Geneva is particularly active in the Commission on Human Rights in the promotion of the rights of the child in its main fields of activity. It has coordinated several joint NGO statements on child prostitution and children's rights at every session of the Commission during the period under review. ICCB also participates in the Commission's Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery.

Commission for Social Development

ICCB actively promoted the idea of an International Year of the Family. Its Vienna representative is the President of the NGO Committee on the International Year of the Family. Several ICCB activities have promoted the Year.

Other commissions

The ICCB Permanent Representative in Vienna attended sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. ICCB also participates in the United Nations NGO Committee on Narcotics and Substance Abuse, New York.

Conferences

The ICCB Permanent Representatives have been active in NGO preparations for major United Nations conferences which took place during the period under review (e.g. World Conference on Human Rights, International Conference on Population and Development).

United Nations Children's Fund

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is one of the primary United Nations agencies with whom the ICCB Permanent Representative exercises its consultative status relationship in both New York and Geneva. ICCB participates in the UNICEF Working Groups on Children's Rights, Education and Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances. ICCB served as Vice-President of the NGO Committee on UNICEF until the spring of 1991.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

ICCB is a member of the NGO Standing Committee of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and participates, in particular, in the groups "Media" and "Science and ethnics". The Permanent representative in Paris is particularly active in promoting the IYF and in the preparation of the International Year of Tolerance.

ICCB worked on the follow-up of the World Conference on Education for All (Jomtien, Thailand, March 1990) and the World Decade for Cultural Development and has a contract with UNESCO to analyse programmes for street and working children, with particular reference to their education programmes.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Health Organization and the International Labour Organization

ICCB has maintained informal and frequent contacts with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) on the non-material needs of refugee children (UNHCR); children and drug abuse, Child-to-Child and AIDS and child prostitution (WHO); and child prostitution and child labour (ILO).

Other

ICCB takes a leading role in NGO coalitions on the International Year of the Family, the NGO group on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Coordination Committee for Eastern and Central Europe.

ICCB publications

Examples of ICCB publications are given below.

International Bulletin: Children Worldwide (English, French, Spanish) on the following topics: handicapped children; refugee children; the World Summit for Children; the child in an intercultural context; children sexually exploited; children in Central and Eastern Europe; AIDS-children too; the family and child resilience.

ICCB series: "Street children - problems or persons?", 1992; Au Rwanda - les enfants de la rue", 1993; "Villes nouvelles", 1994.

"The child on the intercultural scene", 1992: a presentation of research work and projects which should provide material to practitioners in order to help the child on the intercultural scene build up his/her identity.

Children at Risk - Child Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Children with AIDS, report of a Think-Tank organized by Caritas Internationalis and ICCB, Bangkok, November 1992.

Framework for a Plan of Action - Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Seeking Family-based Alternatives for Children who are Abandoned or at Risk of Abandonment; report of the Regional seminar for Eastern and Central Europe, Sofia, Bulgaria, September/October 1992, in collaboration with Defense for Children International, the International Social Service and UNICEF.

Environment and Development - First Call for Children, report of the NGO/UNICEF Warsaw consultation, Poland, March 1993.

The Future of Children with Disabilities in the Baltic States, report of the regional seminar in Vilnius, Lithuania, June 1993, in collaboration with the Christian Children's Fund and the International Federation of Social Workers.

Family: Rights and Responsibilities - Review of Principal International Texts: A Contribution to the International Year of the Family, 1994.

5. INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION OF PEOPLE WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

(Category II)

The present non-governmental organization revised its Constitution and changed its name to International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment (ICEVI) in April 1994.

ICEVI aims at promoting the equalization of educational opportunity for people with visual impairment throughout the world. It operates by advocacy and by other means within its power, through the United Nations and its specialized agencies, as well as through other international, regional and national bodies and meetings. It promotes the inclusion of professionals, parents and consumers in the development of national educational plans to secure equalization of opportunities, it cooperates with national and international non-governmental organizations in its field and it aims at providing professional and technical information through its network of individuals and organizations. Finally it facilitates the exchange of professional knowledge and information thorough publications, seminars and conferences and through networking between professionals at all levels.

ICEVI has members in 60 countries, structured into eight regions. During 1990-1993, funding was received from individuals and national and international organizations active in the education of people with visual impairment. The number of supporting organizations making significant donations to ICEVI funds has increased as a result of a renewed appeal for funding made at the conclusion of ICEVI's Ninth Quinquennial Conference, held in 1992.

ICEVI has received support from the Christoffel-Blindenmission, Helen Keller International, the Organizacion Nacional de Ciegos de España, Sight Savers, the American Foundation for the Blind, Perkins School for the Blind, Tomteboda Resource Centre, Sweden, the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, the Royal National Institute for the Blind (United Kingdom) and the Red Cross.

During the period under review, ICEVI served on the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific inter-organizational task force on disability-related concerns. In March 1990, ICEVI participated in the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)/United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) World Conference on Education for All in Jomtien, Thailand. ICEVI is active in coordination with other organizations of and for disabled persons in meetings of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit for Social Development. ICEVI has been granted category C consultative status with UNESCO and is recognized by UNICEF. ICEVI has collaborated with the WHO programme for the prevention of blindness through the convening of a two-day consultation meeting on the management of low vision in children in Bangkok, Thailand, on 23 and 24 July 1992. The report of this very valuable meeting of internationally recognized experts in this specialist field has been widely circulated.

ICEVI has cooperated with the United Nations through involvement in the Education for All initiative which remains a continuing focus of its representation of the needs of visually impaired persons for education.

ICEVI has collaborated with UNESCO in the formulation and delivery of a project aimed at exploring the needs of visually-impaired children in French-speaking countries of West Africa. This project was developed by ICEVI, with the assistance of UNESCO's Special Education Officer and with the support of a UNESCO contribution towards the cost. A French-speaking consultant, with experience of developing integrated programmes of education for visually impaired children in developing countries, completed in 1993 two exploratory tours of the nine countries involved and has submitted a report. The project is now continuing to a second stage.

Throughout the period 1990-1993, ICEVI continued to work internationally through its eight Regional Chairpersons, based in Africa, Asia, East Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, North America, Caribbean and Pacific. A major programme of specialist training in Romania was delivered in 1991 and 1993 with generous financial support from the British Red Cross and the city of Helsinki. In 1992, ICEVI convened its Ninth Quinquennial Conference in Bangkok, Thailand (26 July to 5 August), which was attended by 554 participants from 78 countries. In the course of the Conference, delegates framed a new mission statement and a programme of aims and objectives. The Executive Committee was charged with reviewing the Constitution to enable the organization to achieve these goals, and the organization adopted a new Constitution and a new name (see para. 1 above).

6. INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE PREVENTION OF DRUG AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

(Category II)

The objectives of the International Federation of Non-government Organizations for the Prevention of Drug and Substance Abuse (INFNGO) are:

(a) The development of collaborative and fruitful interactions among non-government organizations regionally and internationally to identify the needs for service and implement diversified programmes to prevent and control drug abuse with the ultimate aim of achieving a drug free society.

(b) The promotion of cooperation and collaboration between government organizations and non-government organizations at national, regional and international levels.

Membership of IFNGO has increased from 32 members in 18 countries or areas in 1990 to 44 members in 25 countries or areas in 1993: Australia, Bangladesh, Barbados,* Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Fiji,* Germany,* Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Macao,* Malaysia, Mauritius,* Nepal, New Zealand,* Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal,* Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand and United States of America.

IFNGO was fortunate to receive funding support from the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) for the addiction rehabilitation courses held in 1991-1992.

In 1990, IFNGO joined the United Nations NGO Committee on Narcotics and Substance Abuse, New York.

In 1991, IFNGO joined the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

The Secretary of IFNGO attended the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Committee on Population and Social Development meeting on issues related to the demand aspects of drug abuse control and the prevention of AIDS (Bangkok, 19-23 November 1990).

The President of IFNGO attended the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Geneva, March/April 1991) and submitted a one-page statement.

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* Joined IFNGO during the period under review, i.e. 1990-1993.

The President-Elect of IFNGO attended the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development (Manila, 7-11 October 1991).

The Secretary of IFNGO attended the Regional Preparatory Meeting in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and representatives of 15 IFNGO affiliates attended the Regional Preparatory Meeting (Bangkok, 22-25 August 1993) for the 1994 World Forum on the Role of NGOs in Drug Demand Reduction.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes, bodies and specialized agencies

IFNGO entered into working relations with WHO in 1990-1994.

IFNGO was admitted on 12 February 1991 to the ILO Special List of NGOs.

IFNGO was admitted on 9 June 1993 to the Mutual Information Category of Relationship (category C) with UNESCO.

Other relevant activities

A member of IFNGO, the Drug Abuse Prevention Centre (DAPC) in Japan held a highly successful nationwide fund-raising anti-drug campaign in 1993. Forty-five million yen, equivalent to US $424,000, were later donated to UNDCP to set up the DAPC Japan-UNDCP Fund for NGOs in Developing Countries to Prevent Drug Abuse.

UNDCP funded the Joint UNDCP/ILO/IFNGO Regional Training Programme in Addiction Rehabilitation (first course, November 1991 in the Philippines; second course, November/December 1992 in Malaysia).

Six representatives of IFNGO affiliates attended the ILO Training Course on Prevention and Assistance Programmes for Workers with Drug and Alcohol Related Problems, held at Turin, Italy, in November/December 1993.

IFNGO members observed the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 26 June in 1990, 1991, 1992 and 1993.

IFNGO members implemented numerous drug demand reduction activities in observance of the United Nations Decade Against Drug Abuse, 1991-2000.

IFNGO organized the following international conferences:

(a) Twelfth IFNGO Conference, Singapore, 12-16 November 1990; theme: "Healthy living without drugs";

(b) Thirteenth IFNGO Conference, Manila, Philippines, 25-29 November 1991; theme: "Equipping for the year 2000 - NGOs response to the escalating drug abuse problems";

(c) Fourteenth IFNGO Conference, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 7-11 December 1992; theme: "Together strive for a drug-free society".

IFNGO participated in the following workshops:

(a) First Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) NGO Workshop, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 28-30 June 1990: "Comprehensive multi-disciplinary outline of future activities in drug abuse control - ASEAN NGOs' initiatives";

(b) Second ASEAN NGO Workshop, Singapore, 27-29 June 1991: "Mobilization of volunteers in the fight against drug and inhalant abuse";

(c) Third ASEAN NGO Workshop, Jakarta, Indonesia, 25-29 February 1992: "Human resource development for greater success in the implementation of demand reduction programmes";

(d) Fourth ASEAN NGO Workshop, Bangkok, Thailand, 23-25 August 1993: "Developing and utilizing sustainable community resources for demand reduction in drug abuse".

7. INTERNATIONAL YOUNG CHRISTIAN WORKERS

(Category II)

Aims and objectives

The International Young Christian Workers (IYCW) is an organization open to all young workers irrespective of race, creed, religion or sex. It is organized by, for and among young workers so that they may all discover the deepest meaning of their lives and live according to their personal and collective dignity, accepting the responsibility of finding solutions to the situations they are living at local, national and international level.

The organization's main task is that of education through action for social change in the economic, social and political fields, so that young workers and all mankind may attain complete fulfilment as human beings and live accordingly.

At present, IYCW has a network of national affiliates in 54 countries: Africa, 12; Asia-Pacific, 14; North and South America, 16; Europe, 11; and the Arab world, 1.

Participation in United Nations meetings, 1990-1993

June 1990:	ILO Conference (Geneva); President attended
October 1990:	UNESCO Collective Consultation of Youth NGOs, Paris; Treasurer attended
September 1991:	UNESCO Collective Consultation of Youth NGOs, Paris; Treasurer attended
February 1992:	Geneva Informal Meeting; Treasurer actended
March 1992:	NGO/UNESCO Symposium, Paris; General Secretary and Treasurer attended
March 1992:	Preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, New York; Treasurer attended
May 1992:	Formation session, UNESCO/ILO, Paris; General Secretary and Treasurer attended
September 1992:	UNESCO Colloquium, Paris; Treasurer attended
November 1992:	UNESCO Consultation, Beijing; President attended
December 1993:	UNESCO Collective Consultation of Youth NGOs, Paris; Treasurer attended

Main activities of the International Young Christian Workers, 1990-1993

In April 1990, IYCW held an international formation session in Aachen, Germany, with participants from 22 countries.

In December 1991, IYCW held its Eighth International Council, a quadrennial general assembly of all affiliates, in Adelaide, Australia: 37 national movements assembled to evaluate the plan of action for the past four years and to elaborate a new plan for the next four years. The Council permitted the young workers' situation at the global level to be analysed and the main problems facing mankind today to be reviewed: the debt burden of the third world, the growing gap between developing and developed countries, North-South relations, the international division of labour and the like.

In July 1993, an Intercontinental Training Programme was held in Quito, Ecuador, with participation from 20 countries of all regions. The theme was "Development and the economic crisis".

The international plan of action (1992-1995) focuses on a common action for the participation of young workers and defines the means to carry out this action, the main method being the international inquiry.

The International Week of Young Workers is celebrated each year from 24 April to 1 May in 45 countries, with a specific focus each year:

1990: "Young women workers, let's build the future"

1991: "Young workers, take the initiative, build a new world"

1992: "500 years, that's enough"

1993: "The participation of young (women) workers"

IYCW organized various solidarity campaigns in defence of human rights, for example in Peru, Venezuela and the Philippines.

IYCW organized at least once a year a formation session in each continent:

Africa: 1992 (Nairobi, Kenya): training session for young women workers.

1993 (Soweto, South Africa): training session for east and southern Africa and Indian Ocean islands.

1993 (Alexandria, Egypt): general formation session.

Asia-Pacific: 1991 (Eastwood, Australia): formation session.

In 1992, a subregional session was held in Taiwan, Province of China, for the East Asian Region and in New Zealand for the South Pacific Region.

In 1993, subregional sessions were held in Indonesia and Thailand for South-East Asia, New Zealand for the Pacific and India for South Asia.

America: October 1990 (Quito, Ecuador): formation session.

In 1993, a series of subregional training sessions were organized: in Chile for the Southern Cone countries; Ecuador, for the Andean countries; Dominican Republic for the Caribbean.

Europe: In 1990, four formation sessions were organized in Strasbourg, France.

July 1991 (Rixenhart, Belgium): formation session.

In 1992 a formation session was organized in Strasbourg, France, for Western Europe and in Austria for central and eastern Europe.

July 1992 (Almeria, Spain): "The External Debt" (seminar organized with American coordination).

May 1993 (Strasbourg, France): seminar entitled "Participation - taking the initiative".

Publications

IYCW publishes the International INFO and Bulletin, which appear two and four times a year, respectively. Since 1990, issues and main contents have included: young women workers; unemployment and underemployment; IYCW International Council; 500 years, that's enough; Participation; the Gulf war; professional formation for young workers; the information sector. In 1993, two special publications were produced for the international financial campaign of IYCW: Young Workers and Money and Planning the International Financial Campaign, A Guide for National Leaders. At the continental level, publications include: for America, Continental Bulletin; for Africa, INFO; for Asia-Pacific, ASPAC Newsletter and Making Life Happen; for Europe, European Newsletter.

8. REHABILITATION INTERNATIONAL

(Category II)

The mission of Rehabilitation International (RI) is to improve the quality of life of people with disabilities throughout the world, through rehabilitation, the prevention of disability and the equalization of opportunities within society.

The main activities of RI are set out below.

1990

Regional activities

Fifth European Conference, Dublin, 20-25 May.

Ninth Asia/Pacific Conference, Beijing, 20-26 October (included Annual Governing Assembly).

First Latin American Meeting, Buenos Aires, 15 and 16 November.

Special projects

New technologies and employment: study with symposium conducted with funding from the International Labour Organization.

Forging Linkages: Modifying Disability Benefit Programs to Encourage Employment, report published in cooperation with the United States Social Security Administration.

International Disability Exchanges and Studies (IDEAS) project, funded by the United States National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research; published Portfolio, a summary of results of study visits.

RI/UNICEF Technical Support Programme.

1991

Governance

Governing Assembly, Berlin, September.

Regional activities

Regional workshop on community-based rehabilitation practices, Hong Kong, August, a joint project of the RI Asia and Pacific Regional Committee, the Japanese International Cooperation Agency and the Japanese Society for Rehabilitation of the Disabled.

RI-European Community Association held intensive consultations during 1991 to assist the European Commission develop its second five-year plan for disability and rehabilitation projects (1992-1996).

Special projects

IDEAS project continued; held international symposium on personal assistance service, California, United States of America, September; published Portfolio II.

RI/UNICEF Technical Support Programme published two reports: an overview of community-based rehabilitation, and findings of RI's study for UNICEF on the situation of women and children disabled by war.

Kit on trends in disability prevention and rehabilitation prepared in collaboration with the International Initiative Against Avoidable Disablement.

1992

Regional activities

RI Seventeenth World Congress, Nairobi, 7-11 September (included Governing Assembly); associated events included:

First Disability Film Festival in Africa;

Workshop co-sponsored by ILO and RI entitled "Use of media in Africa for public education on disability, promoting the social and economic integration of disabled persons";

Pre-Congress seminar on community-based rehabilitation and post-Congress workshop on production of appropriate technical aids, with support from the Swedish International Development Authority and the International Commission on Technology and Accessibility Information Center.

Special projects

The RI/UNICEF Technical Support Programme organized a joint workshop on childhood disability in Nairobi in cooperation with UNESCO, WHO, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Development Programme/International Initiative Against Avoidable Disablement project.

Childhood Disability Communications Kit produced and distributed by RI/UNICEF.

IDEAS project funded fellowships for study visits, directed an International Roundtable on Disability and Development (Washington, D.C., 14-15 October) and published Portfolio III.

1993

Regional activities

Executive Committee, Dublin, 10-12 May.

European National Secretaries Meeting, Jerusalem, 18-20 June.

First North American Regional Conference and RI Assembly, Atlanta, Georgia, United States of America, 25-29 October.

Special projects

Participation in planning sessions for Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities.

Final year of IDEAS project; published Portfolio IV, as well as a summary of project activities.

Published Personal Assistance Services in Europe and North America under IDEAS grant.

RI/UNICEF Technical Support Programme published One in Ten, a newsletter on childhood disability.

Produced RI/United Nations Decade Information Kit on Disability Prevention.

9. RICHMOND FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

(Category II)

A brief introductory statement recalling the aims and purposes of Richmond Fellowship International (RFI) is set out below.

RFI:

(a) Has a world-wide commitment to the rehabilitation and social integration of those who suffer because of mental disorder, addiction, developmental handicap and, in the case of children, social deprivation and emotional, physical and sexual abuse;

(b) Promotes good practice based on the principles of the therapeutic community, i.e. respect for the individual, a mix of support and opportunity for personal growth and encouragement for people to interact and care for one another;

(c) Seeks to challenge and overcome prejudice, stigma and neglect in the field of mental health and to provide and/or promote professional training and enlightened attitudes. In particular, RFI has a role in fostering and resourcing local initiatives, which may then become independently functioning affiliates of RFI.

The affiliates of RFI numbered 25 at the end of 1993. Between 1989 and 1993, RFI ratified agreements with new affiliates, namely Bangladesh, Grenada, Malta, Nigeria, Peru, the Philippines and Uruguay.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

In connection with the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, 1983-1992, participated in the following meetings:

(a) Consultative Meeting on Disability, Vienna, 1990, 1991 and 1992;

(b) Expert Group Meeting on a long-term strategy to further the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the year 2000 and beyond, Vancouver, April 1992; at the request of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, RFI prepared a document on psychiatric disability for the Meeting;

(c) Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to Elaborate Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Disabled Persons, Vienna, February 1993; RFI submitted a statement.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes, bodies and specialized agencies

World Health Day in 1990 was devoted to a theme of special relevance to the work of RFI - the theme of safe water. It was marked by several RFI affiliates, including the Richmond Fellowship Society (India): an account of the function was published in the NGO-WHO Newsletter.

RFI marked the International Year of the World's Indigenous People, 1993 by adopting it as a theme in the report on its activities in 1993-1994.

Other relevant activities

RFI maintained regular contact with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs at the United Nations Office at Vienna and with the Division of Mental Health of the World Health Organization at Geneva and with WHO regional offices. RFI also sent a letter to The Times (London) on the occasion of World Mental Health Day in 1992.

10. WORLD BLIND UNION

(Category II)

The World Blind Union (WBU) is a coalition of organizations of and for blind people, which exists to actively promote the full participation and equalization of opportunity of blind people in society. WBU seeks to coordinate international activities concerning blind people and to assure the human rights of blind people; studies and pilot projects of innovations in service delivery or peer support are conducted under its auspices. It has member organizations in virtually every country of the world. These members have their own regional groups for Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, North America and the Caribbean, and the Pacific.

Interaction with the United Nations

WBU maintains official relations with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Children's Fund and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and seeks to interact positively with those entities to ensure their support in pursuance of its main objectives. WBU makes an effort to assist in the accomplishment of United Nations goals by promoting activities aimed at securing equal opportunities for the persons WBU represents.

Involvement in the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (1983-1992)

In May 1990, top leaders from WBU took an active part in the Expert Group Meeting on Alternative Ways to Mark the End of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, held in Helsinki, and the President of WBU presented statements at meetings held at United Nations Headquarters in New York related to the development of strategies to ensure the involvement of the United Nations in disability-related issues beyond the Decade.

At a meeting held at United Nations Headquarters in October 1992 to appraise the Decade, the President of WBU made a statement, in which he stressed the right of WBU to represent the interests of blind people internationally, and he outlined main concerns and aspirations.

Positive collaboration was established with the Special Representative to promote the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons in Vienna and several consultation meetings were held with him and his colleagues.

Leaders of WBU were present at and made important contributions to all inter-agency meetings held annually in Vienna to evaluate the accomplishments of the Decade.

The President of WBU participated in the meeting held in Beijing in 1992 to launch the United Nations Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002, and thereafter close cooperation has been maintained with the Economic and

Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok. In 1993, WBU decided to organize a Pan-Asian Conference on Blindness and Blind People in 1995.

Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities

Although WBU would have preferred the adoption of a convention prohibiting all kinds of discrimination based on disability, it participated at different levels from the very beginning in the drafting of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities. The President was a member of the Open-ended Working Party created for this purpose and several WBU leaders also intervened in the process by securing membership of national representations. The Standard Rules were immediately transcribed into braille in English, French and Spanish and were being widely circulated among WBU membership.

World Summit for Social Development

WBU immediately adopted, as one of its priorities, interaction in the preparatory process for the World Summit for Social Development; it prepared a position paper on the subject, which was circulated to all the parties concerned.

Human rights

In 1991, the officers of WBU agreed to consider human rights as one of the main areas of concern and activity of WBU. In July 1991, a conference on the human rights of blind persons in Latin America was organized in Maracaibo, Venezuela. In 1992, the Executive Committee adopted a decision on creating a Committee on Human Rights, which is putting in place a mechanism to monitor violations of the rights of blind persons. Positive interventions in specific cases have been made in such countries as Thailand, Argentina, the United States of America and Australia. Leaders from WBU actively participated in the preparatory process for the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna in June 1993.

Rehabilitation

WBU, through its Ad Hoc Committee on Rehabilitation and Employment, has interacted positively with WHO and ILO in relation with the so-called crisis of rehabilitation. Representatives of WBU attended a consultative meeting convened by WHO at Geneva in May 1992 to develop cooperation strategies to promote community-based rehabilitation. In 1993, WBU agreed to hold a World Rehabilitation Forum in 1994 to evaluate current practice and to draft a strategic plan to improve service delivery in favour of blind persons, especially in the developing world.

Organizational development

In full compliance with the leading role assigned to organizations of blind people in the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at thirty-seventh session, WBU has worked intensively since 1990 in organizational development. A pilot project, entitled "Institutional development project" has been implemented since 1991 in Africa, the Caribbean and the South Pacific.

Disadvantaged groups

During the period under review, WBU has developed strategies to attend more appropriately to the special needs of such disadvantaged groups in the spectrum of blindness as blind women, the elderly and the multi-handicapped. Actions in favour of blind women and the elderly are one of the key priorities of WBU for the period 1993-1996.